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**For Immediate Release:**

**August 1, 2023**

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## **Madison County Finds a Fourth Rabid Animal – Keep Your Pets Vaccinated**

**Wampsville, NY** – The Madison County Public Health Department announced today its fourth positive rabid animal this year. This is the second rabid animal found in the Town of Brookfield. The Town of Lenox and Nelson each had a rabid animal earlier this year.

“We are seeing more rabid animals this year than the last two years combined,” said Environmental Health Director Aaron Lazzara. “The best way to protect yourself is to never approach or pet an animal, wild or domesticated, that you do not know. The best way to protect your pet is to keep their rabies vaccination up-to-date. We never want anyone to have to make a decision to euthanize an unvaccinated family pet that came in contact with a rabid animal.”

Madison County Public Health has two more rabies vaccination clinics for pets. Clinics are by appointment only and are free to County residents. Out of County pet owners are limited to four pets per household; \$5 donations per pet are accepted. Animals must be properly restrained. Proof of previous vaccination is required for a 3-year certificate.

The last two pet rabies clinics of the year:

- **Monday, August 7, 2023 from 5PM-8PM by appointment**  
Madison County Highway Garage in Eaton, 6200 Brown Road, Eaton
- **Tuesday, September 12, 2023 from 4PM-7PM by appointment**  
Gorman Community Center, 1081 Northside Shopping Center, Oneida

Appointments are available online at <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/440/Rabies-Clinics> or call 315-366-2526.

Rabies is spread through saliva. When an unvaccinated pet comes into contact with a rabid animal, they may face a strict quarantine for six months at the owner's expense, costing on average of \$300 or more, or the animal may need to be humanely euthanized.

For more information or to schedule a rabies vaccination for your pet, contact Madison County Public Health at 315-366-2526 or go to [healthymadisoncounty.org](http://healthymadisoncounty.org).

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